

Policy Number	8.1
Approval Body	Board of Governors + Senate
Policy Officer	Director Human Resources
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## 8.1 ACADEMIC FREEDOM

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### ENABLING LEGISLATION + LINKED POLICIES

***Emily Carr University of Art + Design Policies***

- 4.6 Student Conduct Policy
- 5.1 Ethics in Research

### OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to describe the commitment of Emily Carr University of Art + Design (University) to Academic Freedom as encompassed in the following policy.

### SCOPE

This policy is meant to encompass all members of the University community. This includes administrators, faculty members, staff members and students. Academic freedom for the purposes of this policy refers to intellectual freedom in the practice of teaching, research, publishing, creating and exhibiting.

### POLICY

1. The University is committed to the belief that the exchange of knowledge and ideas in an environment of intellectual freedom is the indispensable foundation of all education.
2. Academic Freedom is one means to ensure that an environment of intellectual freedom is sustained. Academic freedom includes the right of all members of the University community to inquire, teach, research, discuss, study, publish, create and exhibit without hindrance or restriction by the University.
3. Within the broad framework of academic freedom affirmed above, and without limiting the generality of the concept, academic freedom includes:

#### **(a) Freedom to Teach**

A member of the University community has:

- The entitlement to freedom in the classroom in discussing the curriculum
- The right to introduce any topic or viewpoint related to the curriculum or to the education of students in the subject
- The individual right and responsibility to determine course content and textbooks subject to written Faculty or Department policy
- The right and responsibility to present controversial subject matter in such a way as to encourage free discussion, inquiry and expression.

**(b) Freedom to Learn**

A member of the University community has the right to full freedom in the pursuit of research interests and in the publication of the results, subject only to the satisfactory performance of other academic duties.

**(c) Freedom to Act as a Private Citizen**

All members of the University community are private citizens, and are entitled to speak or write as private citizens without institutional censorship or discipline. However, they should make every reasonable effort to ensure that when they are expressing personal views, they are not seen as spokesperson or representatives of the University.

**(d) Freedom to Read**

University employees responsible for the development of written, visual and machine readable resources for the academic community have the right to select materials on the basis of their value as information and entertainment sources, being careful to present a diversity of opinion. No library materials shall be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval. In no case shall materials be excluded because of the race or nationality or the social, political or religious views of the author.

**POLICY SUPPORTS**

8.1.1 Academic Freedom Procedures